



Heads Up

Issue: 09

Date: 2003/02/05

To: ANSI-RAB NAP Accredited Registrars and Accreditation Auditors

From: Randy Dougherty, Director of Registrar Accreditation, and Scott Richter, Director of Planning and Development

Re: Consideration of "Other Requirements" During 14001 EMS Audits

U.S. EPA officials and various state environmental regulatory agency officials have requested that sites or organizations holding an ANSI-RAB NAP certificate for ISO 14001 be assessed to Clause 4.3.2 of ISO 14001 with regard to the National Environmental Performance Track program (NEPT) and/or various state voluntary programs to which the site or organization might subscribe.

The ANSI-RAB NAP strongly encourages its EMS accredited CRBs to ensure its auditors are structuring their audits to take these voluntary programs into consideration when developing their audit plans. Preparation should be done prior to arriving at the site to be audited.

Web site information is available to ensure your auditors are aware of which sites or organizations subscribe to these various environmental voluntary programs prior to arriving at the site. Various reports might also be available at these Web sites.

For the NEPT organizations, visit www.epa.gov/performance/track/particip/alphabet.htm.

For various state voluntary programs, visit www.sectorstar.org/taps/. For example, by accessing this site you eventually have a link to Michigan's listing of its Clean Corporate Citizen sites at www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3307_3666_4134-11026--,00.html.

CRB auditors are expected to ensure that organizations that subscribe to these "other voluntary requirements" have a process in place to support its commitments, goals, and objectives for these programs. Reports, which these sites or organizations submit to the regulatory agencies, should reflect the continual improvement to reach their levels of commitment.

Scott Richter is following these developments for the ANSI-RAB NAP. Please contact Scott directly for any questions about the NEPT or other programs.